

From: jm@mandrake.prospeed.net@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 9:50am
Subject: Do not shirk your duty

Dear Sir or Madam;

I am appalled at the inadequacy of the proposed settlement terms.

Now that Microsoft has killed IBM OS/2 and BeOS, and Apple is marginalized, and Microsoft has reached almost 100% market share, how will the settlement restore or even enable competition in PC operating systems?

Now that Microsoft has dumped their browser on the market, setting the price at zero, killing Netscape's viability as a browser company, and Internet Explorer has reached somewhere between 50 and 80% market share (starting from 0%, need I remind you?), how will the settlement restore or even enable competition in Internet browsers?

How will the settlement terms prevent further "Netscaping" (it's a verb, now, you know, meaning to bundle products and their attendant markets out of existence) of streaming audio, streaming video, digital photography, etc. by WindowsXP? Do you not understand the import of this case, as Microsoft seemed to, by its accelerating delivery of WindowsXP in advance of any settlement?

How will the settlement terms prevent Passport's/.NET's monopolization of Internet infrastructure? Of PocketPC's plans for monopolization of the PDA/handheld market? Of XBox's plans for monopolization of the gaming console and/or home entertainment market?

As an MIT computer science graduate with nearly 20 years of industry experience, I am appalled that Microsoft will be able to continue to quash innovation in the industry with continued impunity, and with the implicit endorsement of the DoJ. As a small software business owner with 11 years of industry experience, I am appalled that Microsoft will be able to reap the benefits of the market dominance achieved through its longstanding illegal business practises. As a member of the endangered species of Massachusetts Republicans, I am appalled and embarrassed that the party of the free market has kowtowed to a rapacious, unrepentant monopolist, that has done everything in its power to restrain competition and eliminate consumer choice and freedom.

They have played hardball with every threat they've encountered, including now the DoJ, and they have always won.

While I can understand that this is their nature, and that this is how they always act, I cannot understand your actions. Either you do not

understand the importance of winning the case and restoring competition,
or you have cowered in the face of a tough fight.

It is the undeniable function of government to protect citizens from
both foreign and domestic threats. Do not shirk your duty.

Please feel free to contact me at any time so that I may more fully
express my opinions, so briefly expressed herein.

Very Truly Yours,

John Morrison

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